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**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>In Re Application of:</b>	Paul H. Burmeister, Charles L. Euteneuer, Brian J. Brown, Paul J. Fordenbacher, Anthony C. Vrba
<b>Application No:</b>	08/737,492
<b>Filing Date:</b>	November 18, 1996
<b>For:</b>	IMPROVED TISSUE SUPPORTING DEVICES

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Docket No.: S63.2-6252**

**RESPONSE TO THIRD OFFICE ACTION**

In response to the Official Action mailed January 6, 1999, please amend the above-titled application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 22-27 without prejudice to the patentable subject matter contained therein.

**REMARKS**

This Response amends the application to cancel claims, thereby traversing the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection. The remainder of this response concerns the possible interference which was proposed when the Examiner suggested copying claims into this application from US Patent 5,601,593.

**INTERFERENCE**

Claims 21-27 were added to this application by Amendment in response to the Office Action mailed May 4, 1998 in which the Examiner brought up Freitag, US Patent